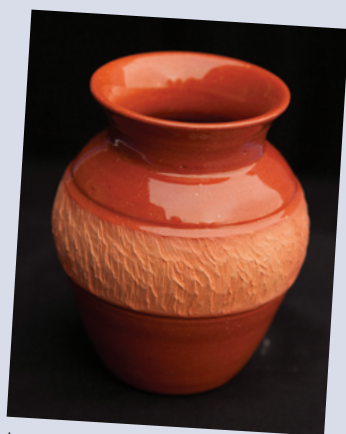


## Tam's Art Students Making the World a More Beautiful Place



Ceramics students with teacher Kathy O'Brien and some of the 350 bowls they contributed to "The Bowl That Keeps Feeding" fundraiser for Marin's emergency family shelter.



An example of pottery by ceramics student Kevin Templeton.

To see more from Tam art students, see pages 7-8.

## Successful Fall Season Sends Many Hawks Teams to Post-Season Play

by Tam Boosters

The fall season is almost over, and Tam Athletes have made great strides. Nearly every team made it into post-season play. Our over 225 student athletes, their coaches, faculty, parents and fans should be proud of what has been accomplished. Read on for an interview with Tam's Athletic Director Christina Amoroso, a sport-by-sport recap of the fall season and a sneak peek at what's ahead for winter sports at Tam.

### From Amo's Perch

In Athletic Director Christina Amoroso's words, "Our teams have had a great fall season!" When asked what she thinks accounts for this year's great performance, Amo points to the experience of returning coaches combined with the energy from our new coaches.

The AD credits the inclusion of sports teams in Tam pep rallies with helping build excitement for the teams. Tam coaches made a big playoff push, from water polo to soccer to tennis to cross country to football. Girls' golf went all the way to Arcata for the finals! All of our playoffs were played off campus, and the support from Boosters and kids, including decorating stands, handing out rally rags and more was huge. As Amo put it, "It's great to see people turn out to support Tam teams."

Here are season highlights from each of our Tam coaches:

### Cross Country

Head Coach Sylvia Goodman was correct at the beginning of the season when she called junior Dan Milechman "one of the fastest boys in the county." In fact, he is this year's Marin County Athletic League (MCAL) Boys' Cross Country Champion! In what was expected to be a "rebuilding year," the Tam boys' team came in second overall, with James MacDonald taking sixth place, Alex Olson 17th and Ben Taska 19th, out of almost 100 runners.

Coach Goodman began the season believing she had enough talent on the girls' cross country team to keep the Hawks girls near the top of the MCAL competition. Right again! Tam's girls' cross country team came in third overall, with Brigitte Winkler coming in 13th, Quinn Cacic, 18th, Monica Milstein 19th, and Katie Lee 20th.

Congratulations to Coach Goodman and all of the athletes on the Tam cross country team on another strong season.



Ms. Amoroso



Continued on page 13



## Principal's Message

by Tom Drescher


### Modernization Update

Significant progress has been made to the Tam campus over the past few weeks. We now have grass on our front lawn; lighting has been installed and illuminates the campus at night; the tennis courts are being painted; and the pool will have water by the time this Tam Family issue reaches your home. All signs indicate that nearly all modernization work will be completed by the beginning of second semester classes.

### New Site Council Parent Representative

Tam High is excited to announce that Lise Jordan has been elected as the new Site Council parent representative. Lise has three boys in Mill Valley public schools and is a native of Marin. She recently completed a two-year term on the Mill Valley Middle School Site Council, and helped to implement their site plan. As a member of the Tam High Site Council, Lise hopes to not only learn about and participate in the decisions that affect the students as they move through high school, but hopes to help provide a balanced parent perspective to the Council as decisions are made.

### Theft in Tam Locker Rooms

Tam experienced a series of thefts in the locker rooms over a span of nearly a month. Tam Administration, with the support of MVPD, was able to identify the likely culprits and have addressed the situation, and locker room theft has dropped considerably over the past few weeks. While many of the thefts were the result of break-ins to lockers, a considerable number of thefts were the result of students not using a lock or students not properly using a lock. Tam will continue to monitor the situation with the goal of keeping our student's personal belongings safe. Please contact the Assistant Principal's office if you have any questions. 

## Donations Requested for Staff Party

The Tam staff will have its annual holiday party on December 11. Donating a small gift is a great way to show your appreciation to teachers and staff. In the past, parents have donated things like gift cards or See's candy as a way to express thanks to teachers and staff members. The gifts are distributed at the celebration through a raffle. If you'd like to contribute, please drop off your item to Mary in the principal's office by December 9. Thank you for your support.



## TeenScreen Program to be Offered to Tam Sophomores

Mental health is central to the overall health and well-being of today's teenagers. If youth living with an emotional or mental disorder can be identified early and their families linked with effective services and support, they can avoid losing critical years of healthy growth and development.

Columbia University developed the TeenScreen program to offer voluntary and confidential suicide risk and mental health check-ups to teens and their families nationwide. This program is included in the National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices as a scientifically verified intervention for the prevention of suicide and mental illness. It has been implemented in more than 500 sites throughout 43 states.

The mission of the TeenScreen program is to ensure that every American family is offered the opportunity to have their teens receive a confidential and voluntary mental health check-up. The Deputy Executive Director of the TeenScreen program, Leslie McGuire, M.S.W, asserts, "Our primary objective is to help young people and their parents live happy and healthy lives."

The TeenScreen program works by creating partnerships with communities across the nation to implement local screening programs for youth. In the Tamalpais Union High School District, TeenScreen has linked with Family Service Agency of Marin to provide the screening and the professional staff to meet with students. Research studies have determined students in the 10th grade are most likely to benefit from such early screening. For most parents, screening can be reassuring, demonstrating that their teens are just experiencing typical adolescent "growing pains." For others, TeenScreen can help parents identify and address a problem, such as teen depression, early.

In January of 2010, sophomores at Tamalpais High School will have the opportunity to participate in these confidential screenings. Parents will receive a letter from Principal Tom Drescher outlining the program for sophomore students around the first of the year. If you would like additional information about this program, consult their website at [teenscreen.org](http://teenscreen.org) or you may call Esme Gordon at Family Service Agency of Marin, 415-491-5700, extension 2051, or email Kim Stiffler, Assistant Principal, at [kstiffler@tamdistrict.org](mailto:kstiffler@tamdistrict.org). *Information taken from [www.teenscreen.org](http://www.teenscreen.org).*



### THE TAM FAMILY

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## Tamalpais High School Final Exam Schedule December 14-18, 2009

### Monday, December 14

1st period	8-8:40 am
2nd period	8:50-9:35 am
Break	9:35-9:40 am
3rd period	9:50-10:30 am
4th period	10:40-11:20 am
Lunch	11:20-11:55 am
5th period	12:05-12:45 pm
6th period	12:55-1:35 pm
7th period	1:45-2:25 pm

### Tuesday, December 15

7th period	8-10 am (final)
Break	10-10:15 am
1st period	10:25-11:00 am
2nd period	11:10-11:45 am
3rd period	11:55 am-12:30 pm
Lunch	12:30-1:05 pm
4th period	1:15-1:50 pm
5th period	2-2:35 pm
6th period	2:45-3:20 pm

### Wednesday, December 16

1st period	8-10 am (final)
Break	10-10:15 am
2nd period	10:25 am-12:25 pm (final)

### Thursday, December 17

3rd period	8-10 am (final)
Break	10-10:15 am
4th period	10:25 am-12:25 pm (final)

### Friday, December 18

5th period	8-10 am (final)
Break	10-10:15 am
6th period	10:25 am-12:25 pm (final)

## PTSA News

by Leslie Wachtel, PTSA President

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving. I am so thankful for everyone at Tam who helps out in so many ways to make our school function so effectively for our students, faculty and staff. Thanks to everyone who volunteers and donates their time, energy and resources to all the different groups and organizations at Tam High.

In November Tam High and Mill Valley Middle School co-sponsored a wonderful and informative parent education conference at the Middle School with Dr. Kenneth Ginsburg speaking to parents on resilience. I want to acknowledge Linda Brauner and Joyce Feeney who organized the conference. Many thanks to both of you for your tireless work and energy in bringing this outstanding speaker to our community. Thanks also to the administrative teams from both Tam High and Mill Valley Middle School who enthusiastically supported the event. Thanks also to Tim Amyx who filmed the conference. A copy of the DVD will be available in the Tam library soon or you may purchase a copy for \$15 by contacting me at mvleslieann@yahoo.com. If enough people let me know by email that they are interested, we will also try to arrange to have the DVD shown at Tam on a Saturday some time in the next couple of months.

Dr. Denise Pope, a Stanford professor, educator and founder of the "Challenge Success Project" came to our campus in early November to speak to both our students and faculty on stress and the pressures of student life. Our PTSA meeting in November hosted a panel discussion on student and faculty reaction to her presentation. Thanks to the students who came to participate, Haley, Theresa, Katya, Jesse, Racine and Claire, and to Mr. Tarpinian and Mr. Drescher who represented the faculty and the administration. Thanks one more time to Linda Brauner who is doing an exceptional job as the chair of parent education at Tam High.

I wish all of our students, faculty, staff and families a wonderful holiday season filled with joy, peace, family and friends.

## PTSA Meeting

**Date:** December 9

**Time:** 7 pm

**Location:** Mill Valley Golf Clubhouse

**Discussion:** "State of the School" presented by Principal Tom Drescher

Our Principal, Tom Drescher, the PTSA, the Tam High Foundation and the Tam High Boosters invite all parents to hear a "State of the School" address on Wednesday, December 9, at 7 pm at the Mill Valley Golf Clubhouse located at 267 Buena Vista Avenue in Mill Valley. Mr. Drescher will share with us what is currently happening at Tam and what we can look forward to in the winter and spring as we see water in the pool, the tennis courts and the elevator completed and our campus finally finished!

This is a wonderful opportunity to ask any questions or bring up any concerns regarding Tam High and your students' high school experience. Mr. Drescher welcomes and encourages all parents to come to find out more about Tam and where they might like to get involved. There will be a brief PTSA meeting that evening as well.

## Watch Your email for the Next Issue of the Tam Family

Our January issue of the **Tam Family** will be sent via e-mail only, no hard copies will be printed.

Please make sure that we have your email address. In an effort to save trees and money, the PTSA will send a couple of our newsletters this spring via email. Please contact Jayne Greenberg at jaynegreenberg@hotmail.com if you currently do not receive Tam High emails and would like to or if you no longer wish to receive hard copies of the printed newsletter in the mail. We want your feedback on how this new method of communication works for you and your family. Please email Jayne at the address above and let us know what you think.

## Parent Ed Meeting Recap:

# Building Resilience in Our Teens with Dr. Kenneth Ginsburg

by Linda Brauner, PTSA Parent Education Chairperson

Last month's annual PTSA parent education conference was a true community building event in which approximately 175 to 200 parents, educators and administrators joined resilience expert, Dr. Ken Ginsburg, to share viewpoints, questions and solutions to issues of resilience. The following is a brief summary of the day.


Short-term, situational stress is inevitable, can be motivating, directive, and helpful, but habitual, chronic stress (feeling overwhelmed, hopeless to change the situation, no matter what one does) is not only unproductive, inefficient, and uncomfortable, but also, leads to harmful health consequences. We know that people who are under constant stress are sicker than others and tend to try to "escape" by using drugs, alcohol, and other destructive patterns of behavior. Our job as parents, then, becomes teaching our children healthy coping strategies, which are productive,

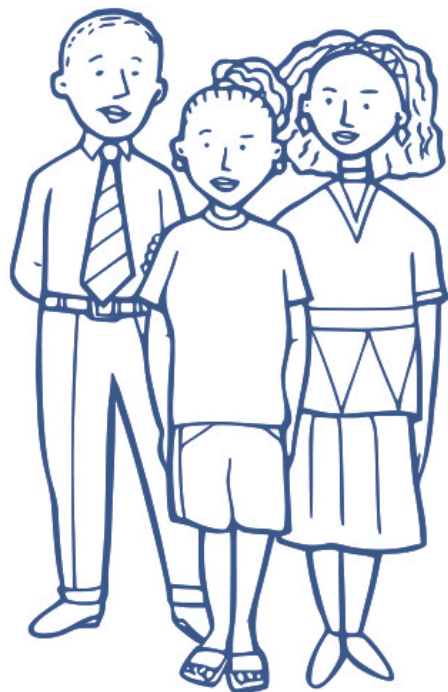
protective and gratifying.

Resilience is not a trait, and is facilitated by focusing upon and praising our children's strengths and abilities. It is important that we keep in mind: 1) Kids live up to or down to our expectations of them. 2) Unconditional love is the foundation of resilience. 3) We, the caretakers, are the most powerful role models/teachers of coping strategies and the "ability to bounce back" in times of stress.

Resilience has seven basic elements that Dr. Ginsburg lists as seven "C's". 1) Competence is one's ability to engage successfully in various life situations. 2) Confidence stems from knowing and believing in one's abilities. 3) Connection with family, school and community creates a strong sense of security and of values that are protective against self-destructive behavior.

4) Character strength in children is reflected not only in knowing the difference between right and wrong, but also in enacting these values in their lives. 5) Contribution by our children to their families, schools and communities creates a sense of competence and belongingness. 6) Coping strategies include problem solving, exercise, diet, sleep, relaxation techniques, journaling, to name a few. 7) Control exercised by our teens over various aspects of their lives is achieved through critical thinking and decision making which in turn creates a sense of confidence and security.

Thanks to Tom Drescher and Leslie Wachtel, to PTSA, to the Tam Foundation, and to Tim Amyx (Tim@tam.net) for videotaping this event. Please contact Leslie Wachtel at mvleslieann@yahoo.com if you would like a DVD for \$15. There will be a DVD of the conference in the Tam High Library. 



## January is Tam High Foundation Month at Mill Valley Market!

Did you know that Mill Valley Market provided over \$7,800 dollars to the Tam High Foundation last year? When you shop at Mill Valley Market and mention the Tam High Foundation, 2% of your total receipt is donated to our school. In January, Mill Valley Market will feature the Tam High Foundation in a special promotion during which 3% of your total receipt will be donated to the Foundation.

Mill Valley Market has been a partner with Tam High Foundation for many years and we want to recognize the positive impact their contributions have had on our school community. Thanks to Mill Valley Market's Shop & Give Program, the Tam High Foundation was able to provide additional teacher-initiated mini-grants for many of Tam High's fantastic programs including AIM, drama, fine arts and physical education.

In this age of shrinking budgets and state funding, community participation and outside sources of funding are a necessity for all schools. Mill Valley Market's dedication allows Tam High students to continue to learn and thrive in a curriculum that is unmatched by any school in the Bay Area. Without its participation, some of these programs would not get the funding they need.

Please show your appreciation this holiday season by shopping at Mill Valley Market. Mention the Tam High Foundation and thank the Canepa family for their continued generosity. Be sure and check out the Farmer Jim produce that is grown organically by Mill Valley Market. The more you shop the more we all benefit!



## Tam High Music Adds the Sparkle to Your Holiday Gift Basket

By Maureen Parton, THUMB parent

Does the dizzying pace of the holiday hubbub make you wonder about how in the world you are going to catch the true holiday spirit? Set your mind at ease. Tam High Music has the cure for "seasonal affective disorder" and it's a set of back-to-back musical performances by Tam High music students sure to calm your frayed nerves and restore a sense of peace and wonder.

Put these dates in your calendar and rest easy! A holiday musical jumpstart to the month of December is just the ticket. Come be amazed by the talent!

**Instrumental Holiday Concert, December 9, 7 pm, Ruby Scott Gym**

**Choral Holiday Concert, December 10, 7 pm, Caldwell Theatre**



*Music Director Spiro Tsingarlis and the orchestra at last year's instrumental holiday concert.*

Look at it this way, these successive Tam High Music concerts are a little gift to yourself to tuck in and enjoy like a small stash of gourmet chocolate you forgot you had! Gather your family, bring a friend and grab a seat. Let the musicians and singers take you out of this overtaxed world to others near and far populated by jazz, traditional and folk songs, classical and new rhythms. It's a vacation without the headache of a price tag on your return!

For further details, check with Music Director Spiro Tsingarlis or go directly to the Music Department page on the Tam website: [tamhigh.org](http://tamhigh.org) (click on "TeacherWebsites" and then "Tsingarlis, Spiro - Music").

### Planning Ahead for 2010? Save These Dates for A February Explosion of Musical Love!

**February 3, 2010 – Solo & Ensemble Concert #1, 7 pm, Caldwell Theatre**

**February 10, 2010 – Solo & Ensemble Concert #2, 7 pm, Caldwell Theatre**

**February 12, 2010 – Valentine's Dinner & Concert, 6:30 pm, Ruby Scott Gym**

This is the Music Department's Fundraising Event of the Year and it's a heart-shaped Valentine full of delightful music and singing. Dine on a sumptuous Valentine's Feast provided by **pasta pomodoro** – complete with dessert. Make this date your Valentine to yourself, your family and your friends. It's a community get together as well as a Tam High Tradition dating back many years. Can't you feel the love?

This is the recession pricing you are looking for in a supper club, low-light atmosphere. Now you just have to see this transformation of Ruby Scott Gym for yourself.

**THUMB – Tam High United Music Boosters** is a parent-run organization whose mission is to encourage, promote and assist in instrumental and choral music activity at Tamalpais High School. If you would like to join in our ongoing work, please e-mail Sacha Bunge at [sbunge@sfsu.edu](mailto:sbunge@sfsu.edu) for more information.

### NEXT THUMB MEETING: ALL INVITED!

There will be no meeting in December. See you in January! Thursday, January 21, 2010 at 7 pm at the Robert Greenwood Music Room aka the Band Box. Join the fun!


Also, check out the THUMB webpage at: [tamhigh.org](http://tamhigh.org) (click on "Community" and then "THUMB"). 

## News from Parent to Parent Connection

by Sarah Kass and Janet Miller, P2P Coordinators

Our November meeting on "Which High School Best Suits Your Students?" was a real eye-opener. Who knew there were so many options and programs within the high school district? Over 60 parents attended to hear a panel of speakers including parents and students from three of our high schools, Tam, Redwood and Drake. Karen Mates, director of special education, also shared additional information about Tamiscal and San Andreas.

Our next session is scheduled for January 21, 2010, and the topic is "Four Year College Isn't the Only Way: Real Life Options That Work for Kids with Learning Challenges, Including Two Year Colleges." Robert Flynn from College of Marin will share information about various options and programs at COM. The program begins at the Kreps Conference Center at Redwood High School at 7 pm with informal parent meeting time a half hour beforehand. We look forward to seeing you in 2010.

P2P is looking for parents to serve on TPAC (Tamalpais Parent Advisor Committee), the steering committee that represents the individual high schools and helps plan P2P's monthly sessions. Being part of TPAC is a great way to stay on the cutting edge of the issues impacting our kids with learning challenges and also provides an opportunity to meet with Tam District administrators and learn about the system. Interested parents please contact [p2p@tamdistrict.org](mailto:p2p@tamdistrict.org). 

## ***Tam High Foundation Annual Campaign Update:*** **October Phone-a-thon Reaches Out to Tam Community**

*by Julie Kertzman*



THANK YOU to the dedicated parent volunteers who gave their time for three nights in October to call Tam community families on behalf of the Tam High Foundation Annual Campaign. Fueled by chicken salad and sweet treats, the phone-a-thon team canvassed hundreds of Tam families, answering questions and seeking support for the fantastic

programs funded by the Foundation. Annual Campaign Co-Chairs Deborah Dilley and Tammy Scott did a terrific job organizing the team, and we are so thankful these two new freshman parents courageously stepped up to run our annual campaign.

As we made these calls, we were pleased to find strong support from the families at Tam. We appreciate the difficulty and challenge of these economic times for everyone in our community. It is truly inspiring to hear people say they will dig deep to support the Foundation. Families see the impact of the Foundation on their student's life at Tam – from technology and guest artists to new PE equipment, musical instruments and academic support. The Foundation is the fuel for innovation and excellence across the campus.

The campaign meter in front of the campus is creeping up to 75%! We need your help to reach the goal, and December is a great month to make your tax deductible donation and receive the benefit for your 2009 taxes. It's easy to donate! Visit the new website for online credit card donations or call or contact the Tam High Foundation office to pay by check, donate stock or set up monthly donations.

**[www.tamhighfoundation.org](http://www.tamhighfoundation.org)**

Tam High Foundation

700 Miller Avenue, Mill Valley, CA 94941

Phone: 380-3565

Email: [tamhighfoundation@marin.k12.ca.us](mailto:tamhighfoundation@marin.k12.ca.us)

When you donate, you will receive a car decal (easy on and off) with the 2009/2010 Foundation logo so you can "light up" your window this season and support Tam High.

We thank all of our generous donors and wish every member of the Tam community a joyous holiday season and a healthy and happy New Year!



## **Reel News**

***News from the Academy of Integrated Humanities and New Media***

## **The Mysterious "Project Mode"**

*by Tara Salisbury, AIM student writer*

If you had walked into the AIM room in the middle of November, you will likely have found it mostly empty, with just a few groups huddled around their computer stations. The majority of students were out and about Marin County and beyond, researching, filming, and exploring their topics.

Now that December is here, the room is slowly filling up again as groups return to transfer their footage onto the computers and begin the editing process. During the last few weeks before the project is due, you will find students hard at work, peering intently at the computer screens as their fingers fly over the keyboards to make those minute but crucial adjustments to their films, working until long after everyone but the janitors have gone home.

This is the mysterious "project mode," where there are no structured classes and groups work on their own schedules to create a five to seven minute documentary. Each documentary is intended to demonstrate compelling storytelling, while informing its audience about a particular subject connected to the theme of change. This year's topics include the declining population of master craftsmen, cotillion and debutante balls, calligraphy versus graphic design, the San Francisco gay men's chorus, and transvestites.

Besides the improvement of their technological, research and writing skills, one of the most valuable accomplishments that "AIMsters" can take away from the documentary process is the development of their "people skills." In making a documentary, students have to somehow create a network of contacts, learning to talk to people and get them to open up on camera about their experiences. Whether it is navigating the sensitive topic of transsexuals, finding the correct phrasing for email to an influential member of the community, or coaxing a prickly old man to talk about his childhood, knowing how to deal with people is extremely important.

When asked about the documentary process, AIM senior Mariah Nimmons says, "You don't realize how much effort you've got to put in to make connections. In school it's easy: you're in a class with someone or you have friends in common. In the real world you've got to take initiative and build relationships from nothing. AIM's been a good way to practice these skills."




## Tam Ceramics Students Branch Out



Tam's ceramics studio was a hub of activity as students in Ceramics 2, 3, 4 and AP3D threw more than 350 bowls to contribute to "The Bowl That Keeps Feeding," a fundraiser event held in Novato to benefit Homeward Bound of Marin's emergency family shelter. Each student made a minimum of 10 bowls, which were fired and given to Kebby McInroy, mom of ceramics student Kyla Neugebauer. Kebby runs Studio 4 Art, where she teaches ceramics to young children. Her students glazed the bowls.

On November 15, the bowls were purchased, filled with homemade soup and taken home by participants after their shared meal as a reminder of the Marin's hungry children whom their donation had helped. The event was a grand success, raising \$1600 for a great cause.



October was a big month for potter-extraordinaire Kevin Templeton, too. Kevin's work was highlighted in a one-man exhibit at the Belvedere-Tiburon Library. Kevin is already famous among ceramics students for his amazing exploits on the potter's wheel. Now with his public solo debut, the secret is out. Kevin's work can be seen around Tam, around town and on his website at [kevintempleton.com](http://kevintempleton.com). (Could be a great opportunity to collect an early work before Kevin goes off to continue studying his art at Alfred University next year!) 

## Tam's Chapter of the National Art Honor Society Brings Beauty to Tam Campus and Beyond

*by Theresa Iker, President, National Art Honor Society*

Tam's National Art Honor Society is a branch of a country-wide community of student artists. While we adhere to the national regulations, the society at Tam is a student-run club that is free to meet the artistic needs of our school and community.

Other programs at our school, like CTE and AIM, constitute communities of like-minded students, and we hope to be the same for the arts community. Because we represent all of Tam's artists, the club is attempting to unite the visual arts students here. The photography, ceramics, and drawing and painting programs each have a unique perspective on what it means to create visual art, and the National Art Honor Society can combine these individual talents and interests.

Our underlying goal so far this year has been to beautify our surroundings, and our upcoming project certainly reflects that. Club members are going to paint Tam's garbage cans in an attempt to bring an artistic touch to an unlikely place! Other impending projects include themed exhibitions at libraries and places of business, and completion of a mural in downtown Mill Valley. This year promises to be eventful for our club, and we are excited to start bringing art to our surrounding community! 

## Tam Art Students Work



*Draw/Paint student work by Jenna Szabo*

Please check out Lynne Klein's teacher web page on [tamhigh.org](http://tamhigh.org) (go to Teacher Websites/Klein, Lynne – Fine Arts) to see more student work.



*Draw/Paint student work by Rowan Walton*

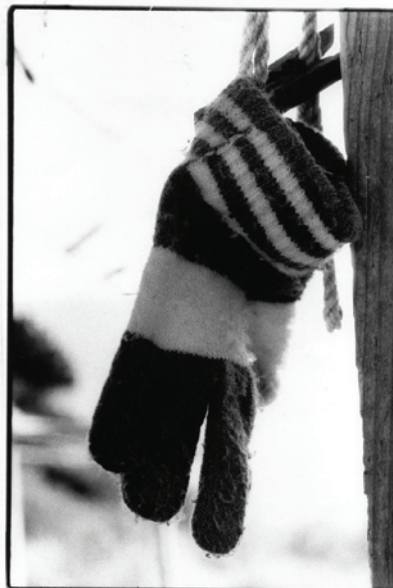
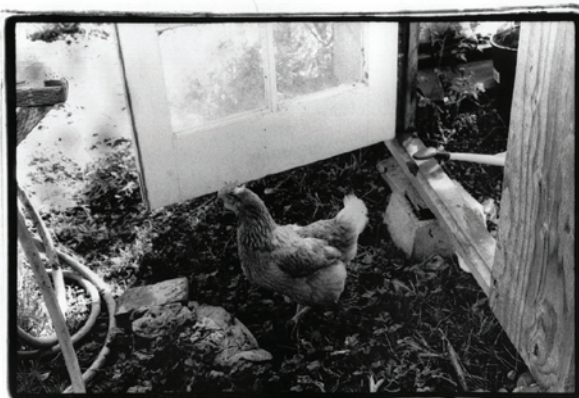
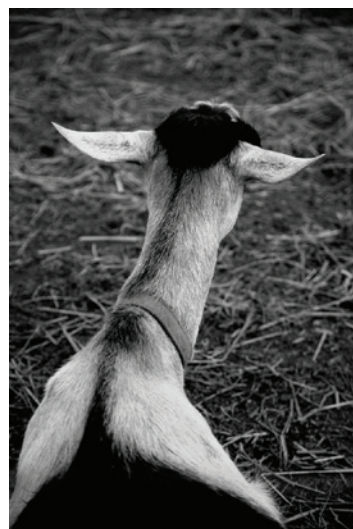


*Draw/Paint student work by Josephine Williams*



## Photos of Slide Ranch by Kate Andersen

These photos are from an AP photography class project documenting Marin organic farms.





## College and Career Center

by Susan Gertman

### College and Career Specialist

[sgertman@tuhdsd.marin.k12.ca.us](mailto:sgertman@tuhdsd.marin.k12.ca.us)

380-3582

The College and Career Center is sponsoring several events to help students and parents become familiar with college admissions tests and financial aid.

#### Email

If you would like to receive grade-specific email from the College and Career Center, make sure your student has registered with PrepHQ, our organizational and communications tool. To do this, go to [www.tamhigh.org](http://www.tamhigh.org), click on Academics, then follow the link to PrepHQ. Once at PrepHQ, "Click here to register."

#### Financial Aid Night

**Date:** Thursday, December 3

**Time:** 6:30 pm

**Location:** Tam Student Center

A financial aid officer from Dominican University will give an overview of financial aid and explain how to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), the primary financial aid application for most colleges. This presentation is open to the entire Tam community. Families of seniors applying for financial aid are urged to attend.

#### Admissions Testing Night

**Date:** Thursday, January 28

**Time:** 6:30 pm

**Location:** Tam Student Center

Bruce Reed, regional director of Compass Education Group, will review PSAT results and give an in-depth explanation of college admissions tests: the SAT, ACT and subject tests. Students who took the PSAT in October should receive their results later this month. Reed will also discuss score choice, the College Board's new score reporting option. Sophomores, juniors and their parents are encouraged to attend this very informative evening.

#### Practice SAT

**Date:** Wednesday, February 3

**Time:** 1:15-5:15pm (a minimum day). Sign-ups begin January 11

**Location:** Tamalpais High School

This practice test is a great opportunity for students to become familiar with the SAT. To sign up, bring \$10 in cash or check, payable to the Tam High PTSA, to the College and Career Center by February 1. The fee funds the PTSA Academic Scholarship. No students are turned away for lack of funds.

#### Beyond Tam, National Portfolio Day for Visual Artists

**Date:** Saturday, January 16

**Time:** noon-4pm

**Location:** San Francisco Art Institute, 800 Chestnut Street, San Francisco

Prospective art and design students can receive feedback on their visual arts portfolio and learn more about the different majors from representatives of art colleges from across the country. For more information, go to [portfolioday.net](http://portfolioday.net).

#### SAT and ACT

You can download the 2009-2010 SAT and ACT testing calendars and register for either test online. Go to [collegeboard.com](http://collegeboard.com) for the SAT and [actstudent.org](http://actstudent.org) for the ACT. Students are encouraged to register online. Sign up early for a convenient test site. Tam is not a test site.

#### Attention: UC Applicants

The University of California expects all applicants to complete the courses listed for senior year with a grade of "C" or better. It is the student's responsibility to notify the university if he or she has received or expects to receive a grade lower than "C" for the first or second semester. Students must also notify the university if they drop a class listed on the application, add a new one or decide to audit a class previously taken for credit.

Students must also notify the university if they change their mailing or e-mail address.

#### ROP Construction Class

**Date:** Begins Wednesday, January 13

**Location:** Redwood High School

The Regional Occupational Program will offer a for-credit construction class at Redwood High School beginning Wednesday, January 13. The course covers foundation, flooring, framing, plumbing, electrical, sheet rock, windows, doors, cabinetry, roofing, blueprint reading and use of hand tools. Master craftsmen will give demonstrations and there will be construction projects and employment opportunities. The class is held from 5-9 pm. An added bonus: Dinner is provided. This class fills up quickly. Call 499-5860 for more information and to register.

ROP also offers a for-credit auto class at San Rafael High School on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4-6:30 pm. The class is open entry. All you have to do to register is go to the class. For more information, call 499-5860.

## One-Acts Are Coming! One-Acts Are Coming!

As we move into the winter semester it is that time of year again...the CTE Winter One Act Festival. Over the course of three weeks in January, the entire student company of Conservatory Theatre Ensemble is involved in putting on short one-act plays that are entirely student-directed and student-produced by the advanced drama students, while featuring performers from the first and second year drama classes. This year, about 32 one-act plays will be scheduled to perform twice during January 6-9, 12-15, and 19-22.

The process for the festival begins when advanced students in honors theater directing choose one act plays to direct. Then, all first and second year students are cast in these plays. Currently, everyone is rehearsing during class periods in preparation for the festival. Works by playwrights such as Tennessee Williams, Anton Chekhov, Garrison Keillor, Horton Foote, Susan Glaspell and Israel Horowitz as well as original plays by CTE alumni Robbie Bruens and Casey Hanley will be among the selections.

Advanced students also produce the festival covering all aspects of behind the scenes work, including scheduling, technical logistics and lighting design. Costumes, sets and props are kept simple to facilitate quick turnovers during the evening. When the festival opens, students will also perform the front of house duties, put together the programs and provide the crew. Every student in CTE will be involved in some aspect of the festival in order to put on an event of this scope.

The one-act performances are enormously popular and often sell out. Here are some other things to be aware of when attending the festival:

1. **Come early:** There are about 160 seats in the Caldwell Theatre with no reserved seating. The box office opens one hour before each performance for purchasing tickets for that day. There are no advance sales by phone.
2. **Seating:** Doors open to the auditorium one half hour before performances begin for seats to be claimed on a first-come, first-served basis. Saving seats is not permitted so if your party has not arrived 10 minutes before the shows begin, unclaimed seats are made available to patrons who are present.
3. **Late Arrivals:** Due to the intimate setting, it is difficult to seat latecomers. Taking your seat after the play has begun is distracting to both the audience and young performers, so you may have to wait until the next intermission to be admitted and then only if there are empty seats available.
4. **Play guidelines:** Plays in the festival are appropriate for high school age and above audiences so use your best judgment when bringing younger kids. Please consider the distraction caused by small ones who may find sitting through play performances too much to handle and talk or otherwise interfere with the live performances.
5. **Cameras/Video:** Do not use cameras either for photo or video. Flash photography is very distracting to young performers struggling with their concentration, and video cameras often interfere with the enjoyment of other audience members.
6. **Meet and Greet:** Do not attempt to go backstage or go up on the stage to see the performers after they finish. You will be able to meet during intermission in the lobby where your presence will not interfere with set changes and other actors preparing to come on in the next play. This consideration for others will help the program run smoothly and quickly between each play.
7. **Respect CTE workers:** Please respect the CTE students who are trying to run the festival with professionalism and courtesy. Sometimes adults forget that the students are in charge of running things and disregard their instructions.

In keeping all these things in mind, we should have a wonderful festival this year for parents, friends and students to enjoy. For final schedule times and ticket information, please check the CTE website: [ctetam.org](http://ctetam.org) or call 380-3535. See you there!!



*Top photo: Alex Bond Bishop (D'Artagnan) (L) confronts Max Perrey (Rochefort) in a duel during "The Three Musketeers."*

*Bottom photo: Charlie Dolton (Aramis) and Charlotte Thomas (Sabine) lead the ensemble in a courtly dance.*

## 'Frenchies' Come to Tam

On October 20, 25 high school students from Orthez, France, came to Tam High. The Frenchies, as they are affectionately known, are part of an exchange program created by French teacher Brian Zailian. The program is in its 15th year.

Each Frenchie was assigned to a Tam High student in French 7/8 and lived with the Tam High student and his or her family for fifteen days. Next April, the Tam High students will travel to Orthez and live with their Frenchie and his or her family.

It was a great experience for everyone. Charlie Dalton's father graciously hosted a fabulous Halloween party. The weather was glorious and the Frenchies got to experience the best of the Bay Area. Muir Woods, Muir Beach, Mt. Tam, Stinson Beach and Santa Cruz are just a few of the places host families took their Frenchies. Hamburgers, Chinese food and cereal were mealtime favorites. The Frenchies went on three day-long excursions to San Francisco with their chaperones. They were particularly fascinated by Haight Street, or as they called it "Hippie Town."

By the end of the exchange, the Frenchies were much more fluent in English and the Tam High students realized that they had better start speaking French every chance they can before going to France in April. Some life-long friendships were made and everyone had an enlightening experience.



## Leadership News

The end of the fall semester was full of fun activities! The sports committee hosted a Halloween staff versus student badminton game. Ms. Amoroso and Mr. Nygaard reigned victorious over the students and won the final matchup versus Emil Barkovich and Nick Pacula. The student relations committee hosted other Halloween games in Gus Gym during Friday's lunch, including guessing games and a costume raffle. Congratulations to Cheri Sandberg, the winner of the staff raffle.

The outreach committee's fall food drive was a huge success. Tam students donated hundreds of cans to the Marin Food Bank to help those in need.

Students indulged in free, delicious pie on Pie Day, November 24, courtesy of the generous donations of parents and community members.

Keep your eyes open for the Spirit Bus! On January 15, Leadership and the Tam Boosters will provide a bus to take Tam students to the Tam varsity boys' basketball game at Terra Linda High School. Permission slips can be found outside of Room 154. Fill one out so you can go to the game and support Tam!

Leadership's merchandise committee is designing all new spirit wear. New sweat-shirts, sweatpants and other items will be available this spring. Bulletin announcements will be made as they come out. Listen for updates and buy spirit wear to support Tam!

## Marin County School to Career Partnership

*by Nancy Westreich, School to Career Liaison*

### College and Career Center

**Redwood High School (415) 945-3604**

**Tamalpais High School (415) 380-3558**

**nwestreich@tamdistrict.org**



For students interested in exploring careers in the music industry, School to Career is offering a field trip on January 13 to Grammy Career Day at San Francisco State University. Students hear live performances, attend interactive workshops and listen to panel discussions about careers in the music industry as musicians, singers, songwriters, promoters, sound engineers and more. Space is limited. Applications are due on December 14. For students interested in exploring a future career, applications are also available in the College and Career Center for spring internships. Spring internships run from February 22 to April 23. Students work six hours a week after school for eight weeks in a variety of internships including healthcare, environmental, non-profit, media and law. Internships are open to sophomores, juniors and seniors. Applications are due January 20.

### Other School to Career Services

As the School to Career Liaison for Tamalpais High School, I am available in the College and Career Center on Wednesdays and Thursdays. I assist students with internship placement and preparation, finding job shadows and informational interviewing opportunities. I also help students with resume writing, interviewing skills, and provide opportunities for students to participate in career-related field trips and activities throughout the year.



Reprinted from The Tam News

## 'Starr' Teacher Retires to Travel

by Alex Rosenberg

From Oregon to Alaska to Marin, Tam High English teacher Prudence Starr has inspired and challenged thousands of students. Working with teenagers in such radically different cultures has given her the opportunity to understand various student dynamics and what makes for an effective classroom. However, after 33 years of teaching, Starr has decided that this year will be her last.

"It's time," Starr said. "I've loved what I've done but I'm ready for new things. My husband has been retired and I'm ready to be with him and travel some more."

'More' being the key word. Starr has already spent much of her life venturing around the world. In the 1970s she spent six weeks enduring a 200-mile trek in the Andes following Hiram Bingham's trail to find Machu Picchu. She explored Papua, New Guinea, in the late '70s and studied various subcultures for several weeks. In 1979, Starr traveled by train for 18 hours in a straight line from one end of Australia to the other. Her most recent trip was to Turkey, where she witnessed nine different civilizations that have impacted Turkey's culture.

"One of the great things about being a teacher is you get summers off," Starr said. "This has really allowed me to travel."



Beyond being a world traveler, Starr is an artist, writer, former radio personality and, as Tam knows her, a teacher.

To read the rest of this article, and to see more work from Tam's student journalists, go to [tamnews.org](http://tamnews.org).

## Spring 2010 Immersion Study in Mexico



Universidad Internacional

Two-Week Intensive Course (17 days)

Invitation to all Tam students to join our academic Tam High School intensive Spanish language program in Mexico

Friday, April 2, to Sunday, April 18, 2010

Learn Spanish while living with a Mexican family. Enjoy exciting field trips, excursions, and cultural events. Two weeks in Cuernavaca, One weekend in Acapulco. Educational excursions to: Mexico City, Teotihuacán, Museum of Anthropology, Tepoztlán, Taxco, Cacahuamilpa Caverns.

### INFORMATION MEETING FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS

Please attend a one-hour information meeting at Tam High School.

Friday, December 11 at 7:30 pm

Upper Keyser, Room 336

For more information, contact Spanish teacher Fernando Cruz, classroom phone: 380-3518, email [fernando.cruz@tamdistrict.org](mailto:fernando.cruz@tamdistrict.org).

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## Successful Fall Season Sends Many Hawks Teams to Post-Season Play

### Varsity Football

Varsity football is another Tam team that made it into post-season play with an above-500 record. Coach Kevin Goyer reported that, "The varsity team has played good football this season." That's an understatement! The team defeated San Rafael for Tam's first homecoming victory in a number of years, and beat Redwood for the first time since 1997. And the win against Terra Linda was a true team victory because Tam's offense, defense and special teams all contributed to make it happen.

The Hawks ended the regular season 7-3 and made it to the playoffs. Due to scheduling, the JV team did not play Marin Catholic, so most of the JV players were brought up to varsity for the last game of the season.



Tam running back Bobby Burton was the Marin IJ Boy's Prep of the Week in September. Here's a link to the story for those who missed it: [marinij.com/marinnews/ci\\_13391983?IADID=Search-www.marinij.com-www.marinij.com](http://marinij.com/marinnews/ci_13391983?IADID=Search-www.marinij.com-www.marinij.com)

Congratulations on a great season to varsity players Sean Betzner, Graeme Black, Gabe Bram, Evan Burke, Bobby Burton, Alex Chin, Alex Factor, Jacob Garrard, Ryan Hall, Ja'Van Hall, Jack Hogan, Kyle Jackson, Austin Kallai, Filip Kaniski, Adam Kassover, Charles McMahon, Jackson Palmer, Alex Ritchie, Brian Scott, Sean Simerly, Sam Suzuki, Colin Teahan and Carlo Tueros.

### JV Football

The Tam junior varsity football team ended the season with a winning record, 5 wins - 4 losses.

The JV boys started the season off against non-league opponents and were 3-0. They didn't fare as well in league play, losing three out of four.

"The season highlight for us, which also gives us plenty to build on in 2010, was our victory against a very good Terra Linda squad," Head Coach Eddie Savino said. "We executed our game plan both offensively and defensively very well."

The JV squad was small to start with and unfortunately lost some players to injuries during the season. Coach Savino commented, "We would not have fared as well as we did without the excellent play and leadership from running backs Mac Huffman and Casey Hogan. Linemen Will Haight and Sean Eghtessadi, anchored our team and led the way down field. Quarterback Jake Dorfman (a Tam 'Hawk of the Week') engineered our offense to a winning season."

Congratulations to the whole JV football squad: Rondall Leggett, Jake Dorfman, Harry Spilman, Connor Caproni, Clay Kuhn, Clay Griebel-Thorpe, Mac Huffman, Ethan Jackson, Jesse Butler, Casey Hogan, Samuel Rivas, Kit Larson, Kevin Le, Morgan Hill, Sean Mullen, Xavier Caputo, Sean Eghtessadi, Mike Ma, Gabe Marino, Will Haight, Ilan Green and Jason Yanowitz.



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### Freshman Football

"This was a great year for Tam freshman football," summed up Head Coach Jon Black. The freshmen football team had a successful season, finishing 3-2-1 in MCALs with key wins against Redwood, Terra Linda and Justin Sienna.

Tam's offense was led by quarterback Al Gant Van Vliet and top receivers Haynes Stephens and Chris Hayman. Stephens had numerous highlight catches and touchdown receptions this year.

Jon Finkelstein led the team in tackles and rushing yardage until he was sidelined with an injury late in the season.

The defense was led by Ben Fritz and linebackers Ryan O'Boyle, Nick Urban and Benji Landress and safety Sam Kassover. Jonny Wachtel is one of the best freshmen kickers that the program has seen. Jake Labay, Jarrett Micklow and Kayne Nau were excellent linemen for the frosh team. Jackson Floum came on strong during the season at defensive end, and Robbie Rieger was an all-purpose player, starting at almost every position.

As Coach Black sees it, "This freshman team will provide Tam with a bright future on the gridiron." We look forward to it!

Congratulations to the Tam freshman football team: Jonah Amargi-Levy, Sel Butler, Dillon Charlton, Rex Chinchilla, Jon Finkelstein, Jackson Floum, Ben Fritz, Al Gant Van Vliet, Andrew Harrison, Chris Hayman, Jay Hopelain, Sam Kassover, Jake Labay, Benji Landress, Jarrett Micklow, Kayne Na, Ryan O'Boyle, Alex Patterson. Jackson Porter, Keith Price, Rob Rieger, Haynes Stephens, Ryan Stolp, Zach Tolpen, Nick Urban and Jonathan Wachtel.



### Girls' Golf

Girls' golf is another of the teams to make it to post-season play. Head Coach John Haight proudly reports that Brooke Wenig and Kate O'Brien were named to the MCAL Girls' Golf All League Team and team captain and senior Emily Behrs won the North Coast Section (NCS) Sportsman Award.

Brooke Wenig finished up her fine season at the NCS Championship tournament, earned a place on the All-League Second Team and was awarded Tam Girls' Golf MVP at the team awards banquet. Kate O'Brien was chosen as a member of the All-League Honorable Mention Team.

Team members Katie Weidmann, Perrin Albert, Vivienne Von Welczeck and Trisha Chang received their athletic Tam Letters and are the nucleus of next year's Tam High girls' golf team.

Congratulations on a great season to: Perrin Albert, Emily Behrs, Trisha Chang, Kate O'Brien, Katie Weidmann, Vivi von Welczeck and Brooke Wenig.

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### Boys' Varsity Soccer

"The boys' varsity soccer team had one of its most successful seasons of the last five years, with a roster full of young players along with a key group of seniors," reports Head Coach Dustin Nygaard. "We finished the season playing our best soccer." The team's overall record was 10-8-6, which qualified it for the MCAL playoffs as well as the NCS playoffs.

In regular season play, the team earned the number five seed for the MCAL tournament and played Branson, who had knocked Tam out of playoff contention the previous two years. Tam won the game played at College of Marin, 2-0. The win placed Tam in the semi-finals against the MCAL Co-Champion, Terra Linda, which had won every game during league play. Tam battled TL to a 0-0 tie after 100 minutes of play, including double overtime. After each team made 5 penalty kicks in a row, TL's keeper finally stopped one and the game was over.

The MCAL playoff run earned the team a number 10 seed in the NCS playoffs. The varsity boys were matched up against number seven Sonoma Valley who had beaten them earlier in the season. This time Tam prevailed and won the game in the final minute, 4-3, in what Coach Nygaard called "the most exciting game of the year." The win put the team in the NCS quarterfinals for the first time since 2000. Though they lost that game by a score of 3-1, it was a fantastic season and the team should be very proud.

The 2009 boys' varsity soccer team was led by its three senior captains: Max Nichols (GK), Nick Pasuhov (midfielder) and Emil Barkovich (defender). Two younger players also made big-time contributions: Spenser Labay (junior) was leading goal scorer at 14 and Imran Nana (sophomore) led team in assists at 10.



### Boys' JV Soccer

Tam's boys' JV soccer program had a hugely successful season and ended in a tie for second place in the MCAL with a 10-2-2 record (12-3-2 overall).

"Tam had a formidable squad coming into the season, including eight returning starters and a bumper crop of talented freshmen," reports Head Coach Chris Hutchison. This enabled the team hit the ground running with a varsity-quality level of play.

"Defensively, the heart of the team revolved around the rock-solid partnership of team Defensive MVP Andrew Shields and fellow center back Cameron Robach," Coach Hutchison said. "Outside backs Pablo Cortez and Breno DeFaria, along with talented freshman duo Aidan Hersh and Joe Laland, stood tall amid constant attempts by opposing teams to get shots off on either of Tam's first-year goalkeepers (freshmen Elliot Dorenbaum and Kenny Rosenberg)."

Tam's central midfield crew of Seth Gillis, Toby Ratcliffe, Theo Gough, and Tucker Nichols (before being called up to the varsity midway through the season) pulled the strings of every game they played, the coach added, "brilliantly mixing intelligent positioning and deft passing with vociferous communication."

Meanwhile, outside midfielders Javier Alvarado, John Tourinho, and up-and-coming freshman prospect Darien Miller-Gowan provided Tam width to spread opposing defenses and whip excellent crosses into opponents' danger areas, allowing the Hawks to fly in and score.



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"Up front, offensive MVP and leading scorer Justin Lee provided the rapier-like attacking option to finish off Tam passing moves, and freshman Mohammed Manneh's unselfish play set up many goals for his teammates," the coach said. "He's one to look out for next year."

"With the Hawks only graduating three seniors from the varsity team this season, competition for spots will be intense. This means the JV team will likely once again be among the teams to beat in MCAL for 2010."

***This year's awards winners are:***

- Offensive Most Valuable Player: Justin Lee
- Defensive Most Valuable Player: Andrew Shields
- Most Inspirational Player: Theodore Gough
- NCS Sportsmanship Certificate Winners: Javier Alvarado, Breno DeFaria, and Mohammed Manneh

Congratulations to the entire boys' JV soccer team on a great season: Javier Alvarado, Pablo Cortez, Breno DeFaria, Elliot Dorenbaum, Seth Gillis, Theodore Gough, Aidan Hersh, Joe Laland, Justin Lee, Mohammed Manneh, Darien Miller-Gowan, Tucker Nichols, Toby Ratcliffe, Cameron Robach, Kenny Rosenberg, Andrew Shields and John Tourinho.



**Girls' Varsity Tennis**

Head Coach Bill Washauer reports that his team had a very good season, reaching the MCAL tournament finals and the semi-finals of the NCS tournament. Unfortunately, Tam's girls lost both tournaments in close, tough matches.

"The girls overcame a lot of adversity – with injuries and illness – to finish strong," Coach Washauer said. The team had finalists in two individuals' tournaments: Emily Prescott reached the finals of the number one singles and Adrienne Foley reached the finals of the number three singles.

Tam's girls' team won the second doubles tournament, and Zoe and Naomi Arthur defeated another Tam team of Anna Aronowitz and Alex Goldstein in the number two doubles finals.

Coach Washauer looks forward to another great year next fall.



**Girls' Varsity Volleyball**

Head Coach Jon Feller said at the outset of the season he expected this to be a building year for Tam's squad of young players. Looking back at the season, Coach Feller says "we set realistic goals for ourselves and achieved them." Tam's varsity team played stronger the second time around than it did in the first game against each opponent. In a sign of how much Tam rattled them, the Marin Catholic team called a time out to calm their nerves during the Tam game.

***Team awards went to:***

- Aubrey McKinney, MVP
- Samantha Wynn, Most inspirational
- Kristin Jensen, Coach's Award

Coach Feller is upbeat as he looks to next year: "Great things will happen next year – most of the team is returning, so we'll be stronger thanks to this year's experience."



*Continued on page 17*



### Girls' JV Volleyball

According to Coach Casey Mondragon, "The high point of the season was beating Branson in two games." These wins were led by the efforts of Shelby Callaway with 14 assists and Skyler McCormick with eight kills and three aces.

The JV girls' second meeting versus San Rafael was another highlight. From the coach's perspective, "The girls battled hard but came up short in the third game. Notables in this game were Shelby Callaway with 10 assists and Brianna Berger with four kills and three blocks."

***Coach Mondragon named the following season award winners:***

- Most Valuable Player: Shelby Callaway
- Most Improved: Darcy Ritchie
- Sportsmanship Award: Lauren Denison

Congratulations to the girls' JV volleyball players: Brianna Berger, Mayana Bonapart, Shelby Callaway, Lauren Denison, Allie Grady, Naomi Hayashi, Maddy Holt, Skyler McCormick, Sareesha Nile, Darcy Ritchie, Nicole Wilson and Mimi Wyatt.



### Freshman Girls' Volleyball

Tam's freshman girls had a tough season, going 0-9. Head coach Brian Rodas reports they nonetheless managed to have fun on and off the court, and became better players, too.

Congratulations to: Molly Boyer, Madeleine Elias, Diana Gilmore, Katharine Hirata, Lila Hood, Laine Kendall, Hayley Murphy, Mattie Naythons, Sophie Newman, Erin Savino, Taylor Scott, Ivory Vogt, Alaina Waluk and Amy Yoger.

### Girls' Varsity Water Polo

The girls' varsity water polo team completed another successful season; finishing second at the MCAL playoffs after an amazing semifinal upset of number two seeded Drake! They went on to

notch their first ever NCS win over Liberty High School in the first round before falling to Acalanes High School 7-6 in a very well-matched game.



The girls put themselves on the map with a top 16 showing at the prestigious Western States Tournament in October and strong play against many East Bay powerhouse teams. Senior captain Mattie Winkler earned the Coach's Award for the team, and broke the team all-time record for saves in goal for a single season.

Senior captain Erin Schlueter was named Most Valuable Player after a stellar season in which she broke the team all-time scoring record, as well as the record for most goals in a single game. She was awarded the NCS Sportsmanship Certificate and has been nominated for All American Honors. Sophomore Jenna Wallace was named most improved after coming off the bench early in the season to earn a starting position after just a few games. All-MCAL and All-NCS honors are sure to

*Continued on page 18*



include many of the Tam varsity girls, and the senior NCS all-stars will include Mattie and Erin, with a game versus the BCS team scheduled for mid-December.

Congratulations on a great season: Ali Coopersmith, Catie DeBenedictis, Emma Ellison, Niki Good, Sami Harvey, Maddie Miller, Phebe Miller, Zoe Nero, Cyd Nero, Kristen Sato, Erin Schlueter, Jenna Wallace and Mattie Winkler.



#### Girls' JV Water Polo

The JV team had a great year, with many new players joining the team. Co-MVP awards went to Gabrielle and Pauline Hauzy for their solid play in both the field and in goal. Marisa McDonald received the Coach's Award, and Sarah Ellison was named Most Improved. With the level of play demonstrated by the JV players, the future of girls' water polo at Tam is bright.

Congratulations to all: Gabrielle Hauzy, Pauline Hauzy, Kristie Lee, Anna Lipman, Marisa McDonald, Emerald Nay, Zoe Nero, Cydney Nero, Nalania Sancristobal, Jeanne Shepherd and Baylin Vreeland.

#### Boys' Varsity Water Polo

The boys' varsity team finished the season with an overall record of 14-11. Head Coach Bob Kusel reports that, "Our MCAL record of 4-4 earned the team fifth place in the league, good enough for an eighth consecutive berth in the league playoffs. We lost in the first round of the playoffs to Terra Linda. The MCAL was won by Drake for the ninth time in the past ten years.



"It was a solid season for a fairly young team (only four seniors)," he continued. "After a difficult start (coming out of the gate with only two wins in our first six games) we won nine of our next 13 games. All of our 11 losses were to NCS or Sacramento Section Top 20 teams.

"Junior Max Sieck and senior Sasha Leidman were selected as team co-MVP's. Sieck's 73 goals led the team in scoring, and he is on his way to becoming the all-time Tam scoring leader. Sasha was a stellar goalie, the heart of a strong defense," Coach Kusel said.

Senior Riley Shine and sophomore Brennan Latimer tied for second in goals scored with 43 each. Latimer's 43 are the most-ever varsity goals scored by a Tam sophomore.

Sophomore Joe Weber was selected as the Coach's Award Winner for the '09 season.

Congratulations to all on a great season: Zach Garrison, Sasha Leidman, Cody Nagy, Devon Miller-Gowan, Dante Graziose, Gio Graziose, Riley McDonald, Max Sieck, Robert Scott, Tanner Nagy, Miles Roberts, Brennan Latimer, Jack Budish, Riley Shine, Kai Brewer and Joe Weber.

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### Boys' JV Water Polo

The boys' JV finished the season with an overall record of 9-6. Their MCAL record of 2-2 earned them third place in the league (which was won by Drake).

"The JV Team was led by Co-MVP Dylan Glave -- his 44 goals were nearly half of the team's total -- and Goalie Tyler Parkerson," Head Coach David Beutel said. "Other outstanding performances were turned in by sophomores Andrew Frost, Trevor Williams, Reese Butler, and Riley Sykes."

The Coach's Award was given to sophomore Reese Butler. Congratulations to the Tam Boys' JV Water Polo team on a strong performance this season!

### Sneak Peek at Winter Sports

Believe it or not, winter sports kicked off at Tam on November 9. Athletic Director Amoroso reports that we have returning coaches on all three varsity teams – boys' and girls' basketball and wrestling.

Speaking of wrestling, Tam is hosting its first-ever wrestling tournament – Mountain Clash – January 30 in both gyms all day. Come out and see what it's all about!

ABOUT TAM BOOSTERS: There is ample evidence that athletics programs benefit student athletes and the rest of the school community. Yet school budgets do not begin to cover program costs at the high school level. Tam High Athletic Boosters exists to help fill the gap, supporting interscholastic sports in the belief that a strong, successful athletic program fosters school spirit, pride and an atmosphere of excellence in the student body.

We need you! The money raised by Boosters funds team transportation, equipment and uniforms, academic tutoring for athletes, weight room supervision, the Tam Hall of Fame and senior athletes scholarships. We support all sports at Tam and meet the first Wednesday of every month at 7 pm in the Hawks Nest. Check us out at [tamhighathletics.org](http://tamhighathletics.org) (click on "Boosters" at the top of the page). To get involved, call us at 380-3586 or email us at [tam.boosters@gmail.com](mailto:tam.boosters@gmail.com).

Crab Feed Fundraiser: Mark your calendar for the Boosters Crab Feed, Sunday, January 31, 2010. Don't miss out on the special entertainment, a mini live auction and raffle with unique prizes, eating with the coaches and being waited on by Tam's stellar athletes. This is always a fun event. Don't be left out – buy your tickets early this year!

To get involved in the Crab Fest or anything else Boosters' does, call us at 380-3586 or email us at [tam.boosters@gmail.com](mailto:tam.boosters@gmail.com).

Go Hawks!





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Tamalpais High School  
700 Miller Avenue  
Mill Valley, CA 94941

Return Service requested

DECEMBER 2009		Time/Event	Location
Date			
2	11:45 AM-2 PM	BOOK PASSAGE LUNCHEON Benefiting Tam High Foundation	51 Tamal Vista Blvd Corte Madera
2	7 PM	BOOSTERS MEETING	HAWK'S NEST (Next to Student Center)
3	6:30 PM	FINANCIAL AID NIGHT	STUDENT CENTER
4	NOON-6 PM	PTSA HOLIDAY PLANT PICK-UP	STUDENT CENTER
8	7 PM	TUJSD BOARD MEETING	KREPS CONFERENCE CENTER Redwood High School
9	7 PM	PTSA MEETING AND FIRESIDE CHAT With Principal Tom Drescher, Co-Sponsored by Ptsa, Tam High Foundation and Boosters.	MILL VALLEY GOLF CLUBHOUSE 267 Buena Vista Ave.
9	7 PM	HOLIDAY INSTRUMENTAL CONCERT	RUBY SCOTT AUDITORIUM
10	7 PM	HOLIDAY CHORAL CONCERT	CALDWELL THEATRE
16-18	12:25 DISMISSAL	FINAL EXAM WEEK See Page 3 For Complete Schedule	
18	7:30 AM	STAFF HOLIDAY BREAKFAST	FACULTY LOUNGE, UPPER KEYSER
21-JAN. 1	NO SCHOOL	WINTER RECESS	
<b>JANUARY 2010</b>			
4	NO SCHOOL	FOR STUDENTS – TEACHER WORK DAY	
5	CLASSES RESUME	FOR STUDENTS	
6-9 12-15 19-22	WINTER ONE-ACT PLAYS		CALDWELL THEATRE
6	7 PM	BOOSTERS MEETING	HAWK'S NEST
12	7 PM	TUJSD BOARD MEETING	KREPS CONFERENCE CENTER Redwood High School
13	7-9 PM	PTSA MEETING WITH PEER RESOURCE CLASS PANEL: "SEX, DRUGS AND ..."	LIBRARY
18	NO SCHOOL	MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. HOLIDAY	
21	6:30 PM	PARENT TO PARENT MEETING	KREPS CONFERENCE CENTER Redwood High School
21	7 PM	THUMB MEETING	
25	NO SCHOOL	STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY	
26	7 PM	TUJSD BOARD MEETING	KREPS CONFERENCE CENTER Redwood High School
28	6:30 PM	ADMISSIONS TESTING NIGHT	STUDENT CENTER
31	TAM BOOSTERS ANNUAL CRAB & PASTA FEED		MILL VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER
For details and updates, check the calendar on the Tam High website: <a href="http://tamhigh.org">tamhigh.org</a>			